

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 06323 260841Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 SAM-01 DLOS-07 COA-02

EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 FEA-02 DRC-01 /161 W

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R 260722Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4157

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AS, IR

SUBJECT: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF SHAH OF IRAN

1. SUMMARY: VISIT OF SHAH AND SHAHBANOU OF IRAN TO AUSTRALIA HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC RELATIONS SUCCESS. SHAH HAS MADE GOOD IMPRESSION WITH SPEECH AT PARLIAMENTARY LUNCHEON SEPT 25. AT PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT 26 HE NEATLY FIELDIED OCCASIONALLY HOSTILE QUESTIONS ON INTERNAL SITUATION IN IRAN, INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, U.S. EXTENSIONS TO DIEGO GARCIA, AND INCREASES IN OIL PRICES DURING PAST YEAR. SMALL HOSTILE DEMONSTRATION ON DETENTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS BY IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TOOK PLACE IN MELBOURNE SEPT 24. END SUMMARY

2. VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF SHAH AND SHAHBANOU OF IRAN, ACCOMPANIED BY PARTY OF 60, HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC RELATIONS SUCCESS FOR COUNTRY WHICH IS ALMOST UNKNOWN  
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PAGE 02 CANBER 06323 260841Z

TO MOST AUSTRALIANS. SHAH'S PARTY ARRIVED IN CANBERRA

ON SEPT 20, AND SUBSEQUENT STOPS HAVE BEEN MADE IN QUEENSLAND, SYDNEY, AND MELBOURNE.

3. SUBSTANTIVE PORTION OF VISIT BEGAN IN CANBERRA SEPT 25 AND WILL CONTINUE TILL SHAH'S DEPARTURE MORNING OF SEPT 27. TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES SIGNED SEPT 25 (SEPT 25). AT LUNCHEON AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE SEPT 25 SHAH REPORTEDLY STATED THAT COUNTRIES AROUND INDIAN OCEAN DID NOT NEED PRESENCE OF SUPER POWERS TO KEEP PEACE. HE EXPRESSED HOPE FOR GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES ON SHORES OF INDIAN OCEAN. HE STATED THAT IRAN HAD TO BE ASSURED THAT ITS EXPORTS WOULD REACH THEIR DESTINATIONS BUT BELIEVED THAT INDIAN OCEAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE ABLE TO ENSURE SAFETY OF AREA WITHOUT GREAT POWER'S PRESENCE.

4. IN HIS RESPONSE AT SAME LUNCHEON PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM SAID, "NEITHER OF US AND NONE OF THE LITTORAL STATES CAN STAND BY AND SEE THE SUPER POWERS MAKE THE INDIAN OCEAN YET ANOTHER AREA OF COMPETITION AND CONFRONTATION. CLEARLY, IT IS NOT IN OUR OWN INTERESTS THAT THEY SHOULD DO SO. IT IS NOT IN THE INTERESTS OF THE GREAT POWERS THEMSELVES." HOWEVER, WHITLAM ADDED, "WE CAN'T TELL THE SOVIET UNION OR THE UNITED STATES TO KEEP OUT. THEIR SHIPS ARE ENTITLED TO SAIL THE SEAS FROM THE GULF TO PERTH." LIBERAL OPPOSITION LEADER SNEDDEN, SPEAKING AT LUNCHEON, EXPRESSED HOPE THAT INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE WOULD BE POSSIBLE, BUT ADDED HE THOUGHT MOST FEASIBLE PROTECTION FOR AUSTRALIAN TRADE THROUGH INDIAN OCEAN WAS "BALANCE" OF NAVAL POWER.

5. SHAH GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT. 26 AT WHICH HE ANSWERED QUESTIONS FREELY. HE NEATLY FIELDING SEVERAL QUESTIONS ON DETENTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS; EXPLAINED WHY COMMUNISTS AND MARXISTS ARE OUTLAWED IN IRAN. SHAH ALSO DISCUSSED HIS CONCEPT OF INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE AND SAID HE DID NOT OPPOSE US BASE AT DIEGO GARCIA. (SUGGESTING THIS NEEDED TO COUNTERBALANCE SOVIET BUILD-UP). SHAH WAS ALSO QUESTIONED ON INCREASE IN OIL PRICES. HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CANBER 06323 260841Z

JUSTIFIED ACTION OF OIL-PRODUCERS ON GROUNDS THAT PRICES OF THEIR IMPORTS HAVE ALSO RISEN SUBSTANTIALLY, AND OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES ARE SIMPLY TRYING TO PROTECT PURCHASING POWER OF THEIR EXPORTS. TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN AVAILABLE.

6. ONLY UNTOWARD INCIDENT DURING VISIT TO DATE WAS SMALL DEMONSTRATION IN MELBOURNE SEPT. 24, WHEN ABOUT 150

LEFTIST DEMONSTRATORS DENOUNCED DETENTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN PAST TWO YEARS. HOWEVER, MORE THAN 200 AUSTRALIAN RESIDENTS OF IRANIAN DESCENT ALSO DEMONSTRATED IN FAVOR OF SHAH, WAVING AUSTRALIAN AND IRANIAN FLAGS AND CHANTING, "JAVID SHAH" (LONG LIVE THE SHAH).

7. WE WILL PRESENT FURTHER REPORT ON SHAH'S VISIT EARLY NEXT WEEK, INCLUDING CONVERSATION AMBASSADOR HAD WITH SHAH SEPT. 26 AND CONVERSATION SCHEDULED WITH IRANIAN AMBASSADOR SEPT. 30.  
GREEN

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## Message Attributes

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